CFAC Minutes 5/29/2020

The purpose of todays meeting was to discuss the reports of the subcommittees as well as discuss reimbursement of different state dollars used for COVID-19.

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 3:01pm. Members not in attendance were Josh Whitworth and Chantel Greene.

Alex Adams started the meeting with the repaying for state supplemental appropriations (SB 1400, SB 1428, and SB 1429) that were enacted in response to COVID-19 as well as pursuant to Executive Order 2020-06. Tom Keeley moved to approved, second by Shawn Keough, to approve these expenses to be reimbursed by the committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Adams then moved to the subcommittee reports, noting that the reports will be posted for public comment and the germane legislative committee chairs will be invited to provide input. The subcommittee reports are as follows:

- Tom Keeley described the work of the Broadband Subcommittee. The committee wanted to
 dedicate 50 million for broadband, with an increase of possibly another 50 million if the
 committee saw many requests. The committee emphasized how the money will be applied for
 and how they will work around the December 30th, 2020 deadline for spending funds. The
 money in this project is tied to the infrastructure costs to build out broadband.
- Josh Tewalt presented the ideas from the Public Safety Subcommittee which included three sections to enhance public safety related to COVID-19. First would be critical technology infrastructure which includes new bandwidth and network capacity as well as wireless capabilities in order to allow contact with our current prison system under quarantine. Next was a request to help automate and expedite release and decarceration procedures in order to make sure people going through the process remain safe, sanitary, and can be released in a timely manner that was approved for them. Last is a request to increase capacity in connection and intervention stations as well as transitional services in order to reduce recidivism and keep inmates safe and socially distanced while in our prison system and through their rehabilitation. The requests totaled \$16.2 million.
- Representative Wintrow presented the Rental Assistance Subcommittee and their
 determination on how to help Idahoans struggling with their rent and utilities. The committee
 recommended to work through the Idaho Housing and Finance Association to give maximum
 transparency and capacity to the program and the ability to quickly disseminate money for
 those in need. The committee recommended \$15 million to go towards this project in \$5 million
 increments, with subsequent increments only being given once the first \$5 million runs out.
- Jeff Weak outlined the proposal from the Firewall IT Subcommittee. Director Weak stressed that the State of Idaho's firewalls are operating at maximum capacity with the amount of state employees working remotely currently. The request would be for two new firewalls costing \$1.96 million to order the equipment and put the new firewalls in place.

Chairman Adams concluded the meeting with the intention to take public comment and vote soon on the subcommittee recommendations.